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1860, written the two original volumes on the Law of Real Property. His broad grasp of the entire subject and his clear and easy style produced a work which remains to-day the most comprehensive general treatise on this large and important branch of the law.

The first three editions appeared at intervals of four years. Since then, the periods between successive editions have gradually increased, largely owing to the multiplication of books on special topics embraced under this title, but Professor Washburn's work is still the standard treatise on the subject. Its retention of this position is, however, due in no small measure to the fortunate selection of its editors and annotators. In the sixth edition, especially, do the labors of the editor add to the value of the volumes. Professor Wurts has not only brought down to date the references to authorities, but has made many changes in the text, chiefly by way of addition and enlargement. These changes have been in complete sympathy with the method and manner of the original. Often, in the light of the increased number of cases decided since Professor Washburn wrote, Professor Wurts is enabled to deduce a definition or a principle of law, where before there had been stated only a decision on a single set of facts. The subject of Fixtures offers many such opportunities. On the other hand, former editors had expanded largely the discussion of the topic of "Homestead Rights;" the sixth edition wisely follows the general scope of the original, and reduces this chapter about one hundred pages.

In view of the excellence of the editorial work, it may be permissible to doubt the advisability of a merely mechanical change, namely, the omission of the paging of the first edition. Verification of references to or from other editions thus becomes extremely difficult.

J. I. W.

LECTURES ON SLAVONIC LAW. By Feodor Sigel. London: Henry Frowde. New York: Oxford University Press, American Branch. 1902. pp. viii, 152. 12mo.

This little book contains the Ilchester Lectures for the year 1900, by Professor Sigel of the faculty of law in the University of Warsaw. These consist of a careful historical examination of the fortunes of folk-law in the Slavonic nations of Europe. Separate lectures are devoted to Bulgaria and Servia, Russia, Bohemia, Poland, and Croatia.

The title given to the book is a trifle misleading. While the greater part of the lectures tells about the Slavonic law and its fortunes in various Slavonic states, there is hardly a word to indicate what the actual provisions of that law were; neither are the principles of Slavonic law stated, nor is any comparison made between these principles and those of other Aryan systems of law. One who goes to the book, therefore, to find out what the peculiar doctrines of Slavonic lawgivers were will be disappointed. On the other hand, there is a careful, concise, and, on the whole, clear discussion of the external history of the popular law, its crystallization into more or less perfect codes in the different states, and its final absorption into the all-conquering Roman law. We get a good general idea of the constitutional history of these countries, and some information on their legal bibliography. This information is so interesting and so valuable that one hardly feels like finding fault with the book for not containing what its title seems to import.

To an English lawyer much the most interesting part of this book is the lecture on the law of Bohemia. The King of Bohemia, like the King of England, succeeded in establishing a King's Court which absorbed into itself the functions of the earlier popular courts. Like the King's Court in England, this court proceeded to apply throughout Bohemia a common law, based largely, of course, on doctrines of Slavonic law, but modifying those doctrines by notions of equity and of public policy. Again like the English court, the Bohemian court proceeded from precedent to precedent, and thus established a body of common law that was sensible, flexible, and perfectly adapted to its purpose. Unfortunately this Bohemian common law was entirely superseded at the time

the country became Germanized; but the reports of the decisions of the King's Court have been preserved, and a study of them should be of the greatest value to a student of our own legal history.

J. H. B.

ELEMENTS OF THE LAW OF BAILMENTS AND CARRIERS, including Pledge and Pawn and Innkeepers. By Philip T. Van Zile. Chicago: Callaghan & Co. 1902. pp. lvii, 785. 8vo.

This is an especially interesting book. The law of bailments and the allied subjects here treated has, as its foundation, principles which are as old as civilization, but which in spite of their primitive origin still persist as governing rules for our modern complex business system. This phase of the subject is given prominence by the work, and the flexibility and adaptability of our common law are thus excellently illustrated.

The writer first treats bailment in general, outlining the history, nature, and classification of the relation, and thus indicating with clearness and discrimination the rights and liabilities incident to the relation in each of the general classes. The succeeding portion of the book deals with the more specialized forms of bailments and related subjects under the titles of Pledge or Pawn, Innkeepers and Boarding-house Keepers, Carriers, and Carriers of Passengers. The section on pledge is particularly good in its treatment of the pledge of negotiable and non-negotiable securities. That on innkeepers brings into accessible form peculiar and not unimportant principles of law not often so fully treated. Fully half of the book is devoted to the law of carriers, and this important branch is carefully and thoroughly analyzed in its many complex details and modern applications. There is also a brief section on the Post-office Department and the liability of its servants.

The book is not, and does not purport to be, a work of originality. It merely restates in clear, concise, and well digested form old well established principles together with those that are still in the process of development. This is done in a free, sketchy style which shows the effect of the author's long experience as a lecturer and adds not a little to the value and attractiveness of the volume, especially as it is likely to prove particularly a student's book. It will nevertheless become a valuable hand-book for practitioners from its concise analysis of an important subject. While not a great book, or an especially noteworthy accession to legal literature, this work is distinctly commendable.

W. H. H.

THE LAW OF INSURANCE—FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT, GUARANTEE. By William A. Kerr. St. Paul: Keefe-Davidson Co. 1902. pp. xi, 917. 8vo.

The author of this book has attempted to give a concise statement of the law of non-maritime insurance as laid down by the courts in decided cases. In brief, he has prepared a large number of head-notes which have been classified and arranged under appropriate divisions and subdivisions of the subject. In support of each proposition the corresponding authority is cited. Mr. Kerr frankly states that his aim has been merely to provide a convenient aid and guide to investigation of the actual state of the law. He has no theories to advance and does not discuss the reasons which gave rise to the existing law, but is content to state what that law is and where it may be found. For this reason the work will be of little value to the student. On the other hand, it will probably find a ready welcome to the shelves of the busy practitioner.

S. L. C.